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LETTER DATED 9 SEPTEMBER 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SLOVENIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Referring to the letter dated 8 July 1994 from the Secretary-General addressed to the president of the Security Council (S/1994/811), I have the honour to present the views of the Republic of Slovenia concerning certain elements contained in the report of the Co-Chairmen of the Steering Committee on the activities of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia (ibid, annex).

Under section III C of their report, the Co-Chairmen deal with a study on confidence-building and security measures which was commissioned from the Institute for Security Studies of the Western European Union. The study contains a number of ideas which require careful reflection. Thus, according to the study, the five successor States of the former Yugoslavia would be brought to accept the confidence- and security-building measures, which would need to go beyond the measures already agreed to in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe in order to satisfy the security needs of all the Yugoslav successor States and their neighbours. Further on, the study advocates that the first round of negotiations on control and verification measures be held within the framework of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia and involve only the successor States.

Security in the region is one of the most vital interests of the Republic of Slovenia. In this connection, Slovenia wishes to reiterate that any confidence- and security-building arrangements should be governed by the pertinent basic principles. In particular, the definition of the area of application of such arrangements should take into account relevant facts and ought not to be based on such irrelevant notions as the references to the "former Yugoslavia", a country that has ceased to exist. Former Yugoslavia is not a region.

It does seem to be necessary that those successor States of the former Yugoslavia that are involved in the armed conflicts make the arrangements needed for the establishment of peace and for post-conflict peace-building. The Republic of Slovenia, on the other hand, is not involved in any armed conflict.

We would, however, be ready to participate in the arrangements agreed to by all States of the region, including Slovenia, and not only the States on territory that used to be part of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Furthermore, successful functioning of the relevant regional regime requires that the commitments of participating States are entered into on the basis of their free agreement. In this connection, Slovenia emphasizes the relevance of the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security adopted by the Disarmament Commission (A/48/42, annex II) and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/75 G of 16 December 1993.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Danilo TÜRK
Ambassador
Permanent Representative